

Alumni Columns

Magazine Winter 2008
Northwestern State University of Louisiana



www.northwesternalumni.com



Dr. Randall J. Webb, 1965, 1966
President, Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni:

This has been an outstanding semester for Northwestern State University, and I have several wonderful things to tell you about. Each of these items will have a lasting, positive impact on the university.

Northwestern's fall enrollment is 9,111. It is the first time fall enrollment has gone up at Northwestern since the implementation of selective admissions in 2005. The university had an almost two percent increase in student retention this fall from 65.7 percent to 67.6 percent. These are positive trends for Northwestern in what continues to be a competitive environment.

In October, Northwestern received \$4.4 million from a mineral lease on 366 acres of university property in DeSoto Parish donated by the late John Henry Crow in 1972. We have established the John Henry Crow/Art Allen Scholarship and the John Henry Crow/Art Allen Faculty Award to assist students and promote faculty research. A \$2.4 million endowed scholarship fund and \$1 million faculty award fund have been established. The remaining \$1 million will be used for capital projects and acquisitions to enhance the campus. We are optimistic that Northwestern will receive additional payments from royalties, or if production does not begin within a specified time period. The university is committed to using this money in a way that helps our students and faculty.

In January, our Department of Engineering Technology will move back to a newly rehabilitated Williamson Hall. Work on this \$5.6 million project has been progressing for two years.

Thank you for all you do to support Northwestern. I wish you and your family a happy holiday season.

William Drake Owens, 2004, 2005
Acting Director of Alumni and Development

Dear Alumni,

It is truly an exciting time to be a part of Northwestern State University as we celebrate our 125th anniversary. We look to 2009 as a year in which we as alumni not only reflect on the rich history and tradition of our alma mater, but also reconnect with our institution and former classmates and friends.

We at the Office of Alumni and Development are striving to make it easier for you to stay involved with Northwestern no matter where you are. We are proud to unveil a new and more user-friendly website that will allow you to view photos of alumni events, read news and announcements about the university and provide ways for you to support and promote Northwestern. Most of all, we hope that it will be an avenue through which you reconnect with friends through our on-line community, whether you graduated this past year or 50 years ago.

Our mission is to foster a sense of camaraderie among all Northwestern alumni, friends and supporters. Please call us with questions, or if visiting campus, do not hesitate to visit the Office of Alumni, where we are dedicated to the past, present and future of Northwestern State University.



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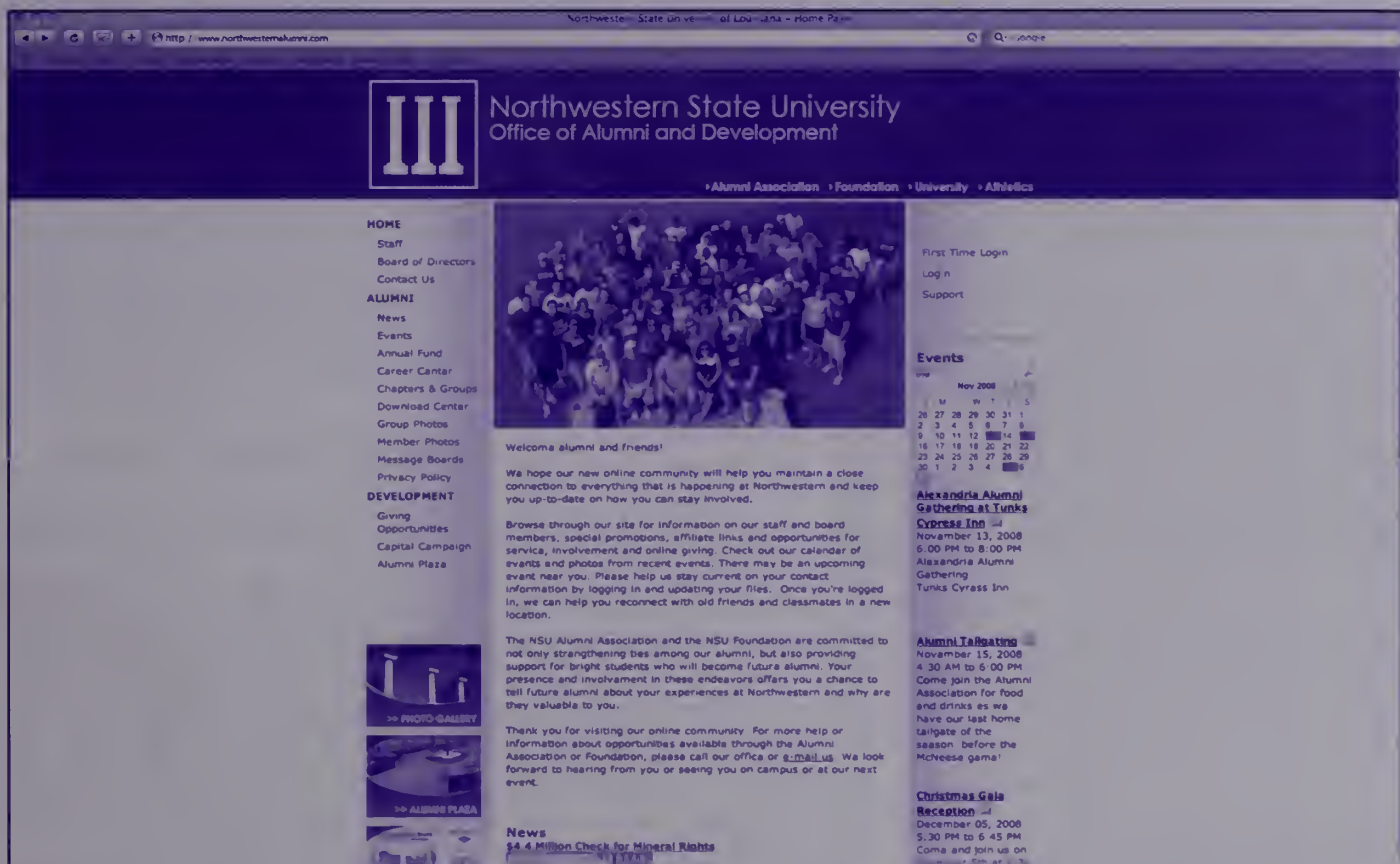
Beth McPherson Mann, 1975
NSU Press Publications Office

Northwestern State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, Specialist and Doctorate degrees.

It is the policy of Northwestern State University of Louisiana not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment practices.

Stay connected to NSU

Find classmates and friends with new Alumni website



You may look back at your time on NSU's campus as some of the best years of your life - the years you met friends who were going to last forever or the years you were encouraged to broaden your horizons by thought-provoking professors. You probably kept in touch with those friends for a while, but after two or three moves and a couple of children, you lost touch. You kept in touch with that professor for a while, too, but somehow life managed to get in the way.

That's all about to change.

Northwestern State University's Office of Alumni and Development is helping you reconnect to NSU and all those friends you've lost touch with through NSU's new online community, the university's updated website for our alumni and friends. You can look up an old classmate, learn about events and happenings at NSU and

learn about alumni events that may be going on in your area. We'll also post news articles about things happening around campus and with alumni to help keep you up-to-date. Just type in www.northwesternalumni.com, and the Demon world is at your fingertips.

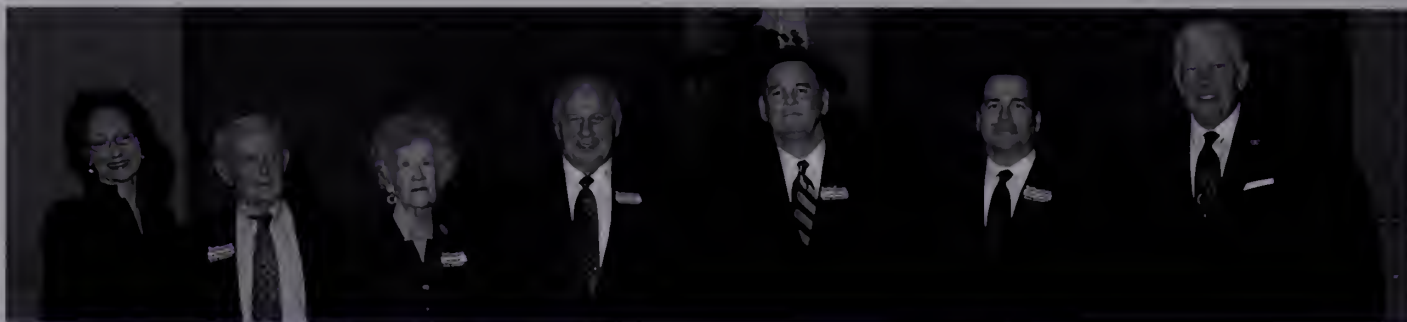
The online community is also embracing online ventures more recent alumni are familiar with, including the chance to add blogs, create message boards and post group or event photos. Alumni can buy a brick at Alumni Plaza, donate to the annual fund or become a member of the President's Council. There is also a spot to view past and current issues of the Alumni Columns.

When visitors first log onto the site, they will be welcomed by the Office of Alumni and Development. The right side of the screen will show

a calendar of upcoming events. There will also be a log-in section. This site is for Demon alumni and friends, so Alumni and Development wants to keep some information available only to those people. Once you've logged in, the entire site is yours to navigate.

Not only is the online community a great way to learn about what's happening at NSU, it's also a way for us at Alumni and Development to learn what's happening in your life. Class notes can be updated online and notes can be added to the next issue of Alumni Columns.

Please take a few moments to visit the NSU's new online community at www.northwesternalumni.com, log in and take a look around. You will agree this a great way to reconnect with old friends and your time at NSU.



Six Northwestern State University graduates were selected as the 2008 inductees into the Alumni Hall of Distinction, the Long Purple Line. The honorees were, from left, Dr. Melissa Lynn of Shreveport, Dr. Tom Paul and Maxine Southerland of Natchitoches, Alvin Moreau Jr. of Baton Rouge, Dr. Robert Brown of Russellville, Ark., and the late Speedy O. Long, who was represented by his son, David Long. They were congratulated by NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb. The inductees were honored at the annual Homecoming Banquet on Friday, Oct. 24 and at the Homecoming football game against Sam Houston on Saturday, Oct. 25. Out of more than 75,000 Northwestern alumni, only 93 people have been chosen for this honor.

Six distinguished alumni inducted into Long Purple Line

Six NSU graduates were selected as the 2008 inductees into the Alumni Hall of Distinction, the Long Purple Line. The honorees, Dr. Robert Brown of Russellville, Ark., the late Speedy O. Long, Dr. Melissa Lynn of Shreveport, Alvin Moreau Jr., of Baton Rouge and Dr. Tom Paul and Maxine Southerland of Natchitoches, were honored during Homecoming festivities in October. Out of more than 75,000 Northwestern alumni, only 93 people have been chosen for this honor.

Brown, a 1967 graduate of Northwestern in economics, has been president of Arkansas Tech University since 1993, developing and implementing 41 new programs of study. Enrollment at Arkansas Tech has grown 77 percent under his leadership, the institution's operating budget has grown from \$31 million to more than \$100 million and new records in private fundraising have been set.

As president, Brown initiated and arranged funding for more than \$80 million in campus improvements including a library and student center. He also led Arkansas Tech's athletic programs from the NAIA to NCAA Division II status.

Long, a 1951 graduate of Northwestern, was in the Louisiana State Senate for two terms and was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1965 to 1973. While in

Congress, Long's subcommittee held hearings that discovered why the M-16 rifle was failing in combat conditions. The Pentagon then made changes in ammunition used and cleaning procedures and the weapon has performed well since then. He was also credited with convincing the Pentagon to make Fort Polk a permanent military installation and convincing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to undertake development and control of the Red River.

He retired from Congress in 1973 and served as district attorney from the 28th Judicial District covering LaSalle and Caldwell Parish from 1973 until 1985. In 1994, he was appointed Judge Pro Tem of the 28th Judicial District until a judge could be elected the following year.

Long died in 2006.

Lynn, an Alexandria native, is a 1985 graduate of Northwestern and a 1989 graduate of the LSU School of Medicine. She is a diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine, Nephrology Subspecialty. Lynn taught at the LSU Health Sciences Center in 1994 and from 1996-2001.

She is an active associate at Christus Schumpert Health System and Willis-Knighton Health System and a consultant at Lifecare Hospitals, Dubuis Hospital, Cornerstone Hospital and Promise Rehab Hospital. Lynn is co-director of Shreveport Regional

Dialysis Center and 10 regional dialysis centers.

Moreau was a coach at Catholic High of Baton Rouge, Northside High of Lafayette and Redemptorist High of Baton Rouge then became a claims adjuster for State Farm Insurance. He then entered the School of Physical Therapy at the University of Alabama Birmingham, graduating in 1974.

In 1977, he opened the first Moreau Physical Therapy Clinic in Zachary and now has four clinics in the Baton Rouge region. He is a member of the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. Moreau also served on the Zachary Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Maxine and Tom Paul Southerland were recipients of the President's Distinguished Service Award in 2003. Both have been honored with induction in the NSU Hall of Distinguished Educators.

Maxine Southerland received her bachelor's degree from Louisiana State Normal College and a master's at Northwestern and did master's plus 30 work at NSU and LSU. She taught and headed home economics departments at several high schools and was an associate professor of home economics at Northwestern.

A graduate of Louisiana State Normal School, Tom Paul Southerland earned a master's and doctorate at LSU.

Long Purple Line continued

He was an administrator at Northwestern from 1966 until his retirement in 1986 and came to NSU after serving four years as assistant superintendent for instruction for the Rapides Parish School Board. Southerland was the university's dean of the College of Education from 1966 until 1975 and dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research from 1975 until 1978. In 1978, Southerland was appointed vice president for Academic Affairs and was named executive vice president in 1982. He was named vice president emeritus in 1987.

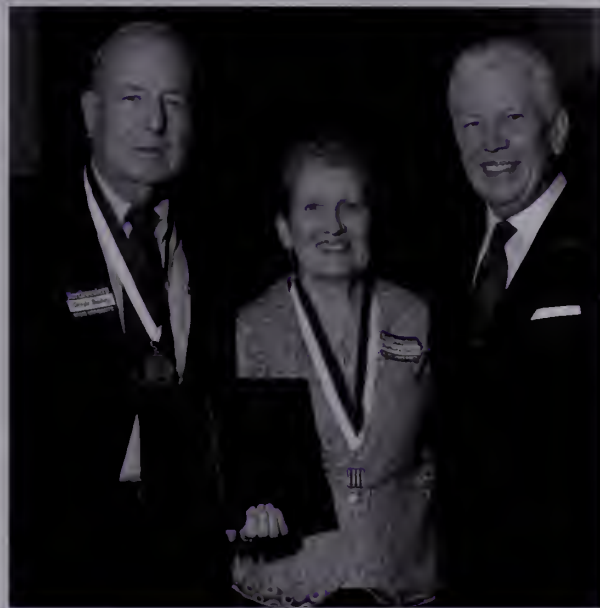
Tom Paul Southerland was instrumental in establishing admissions standards for teacher education and developing 14 new programs for the College of Education as well as securing a specialist and doctorate program. He led the College of Education to full accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. Under his leadership, NSU constructed the Teacher Education Center, the Middle Lab School and the Health and Human Performance Building.

Baileys recipients of President's Distinguished Service Award

Doyle and Barbara Bailey of Natchez were named recipients of the 2008 President's Distinguished Service Award.

"Doyle and Barbara Bailey are exemplars of the volunteering community of people who willingly give of themselves and their resources to help others," said NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb. "Both Doyle and Barbara are retired from caring professions and could relax and enjoy life after years of serving others in their professional roles. But, 'retirement' to them is yet another phase in their work lives in which they continue to contribute to the overall welfare of our city and region."

According to Webb, Doyle and Barbara Bailey were instrumental in establishing a memorandum of understanding between NSU and the Natchitoches Emergency Response Crisis Counselor Team earlier this year. The agreement establishes the framework of collaboration and coordination



NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb, right, presented Doyle and Barbara Bailey with the 2008 Distinguished Service Award.

ROTC Honorees



VIP participants who took part in the annual ROTC open house on Homecoming Day were, from left, LTC (Ret) Fred N. Terasa (1982), BG (Ret) James Bonsall (1953), Nick Pollacia (1968, 1994), LTC (Ret) Sandy McNeely (1964), LTC (Ret) Truman Maynard (1959), Drake Owens (2004, 2005), LTC Leon E. Pennington, LTG (Ret) Joseph M. Cosumano Jr. (1968, 1970) and NSU President Randall J. Webb (1965, 1966). The gathering took place in the recently renovated cadet dayroom at Noe Armory in front of a wall painting of the Demon Regiment flag. The 59th on the flag indicates that the senior ROTC cadet class in session is the 59th Battalion of the Demon Regiment. Each year is a separate battalion of the regiment which is the alumni organization for the NSU Army ROTC battalion.

between these agencies for the provision of crisis intervention counseling services during emergencies on the NSU campus. Webb said the agreement set up a model program that addresses the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System initiative for mental health services during emergencies on university campuses.

In 2005, the Baileys set up the Rev. Doyle and Barbara Bailey Family Scholarship for a third year student at Northwestern. Recipients are selected by the NSU Foundation in association with the Baptist Collegiate Ministry at Northwestern.

College of Education recognizes Distinguished Educators



The Northwestern State University College of Education inducted outstanding alumni into the Hall of Distinguished Educators during Homecoming festivities Oct. 24-25. This year's Distinguished Educators were, from left, Dr. Jerry Payne of Marshall, Texas; Dan Chase of Baton Rouge, John Dilworth of Montgomery, Ala.; Hershel M. Machen Jr. of Winnfield and Connie Gaines Buck of Baton Rouge. They were recognized during a brunch hosted by the College of Education and honored for their leadership and contributions to education.

The NSU College of Education inducted five outstanding alumni into the Hall of Distinguished Educators during Homecoming. This year's Distinguished Educators are Connie Gaines Buck and Dan Chase of Baton Rouge, John Dilworth of Montgomery, Ala., Hershel M. Machen Jr. of Winnfield and Dr. Jerry Payne of Marshall, Texas.

Buck earned a bachelor's degree in business education in 1971, a master's in business education in 1973 and +30 in business education in 1978. She began her career as a business teacher at Bossier High School before joining the Department of Education for 22 years as program manager and executive officer.

Chase graduated from Northwestern in 1957 with a degree in health and physical education and earned a masters in education administration at Northeastern State College in 1964. He began his career as a teacher and coach in Concordia Parish and later worked as a graduate assistant at the University of Arkansas before return-

ing to Louisiana as a teacher and coach in East Baton Rouge Parish and the Louisiana State School for the Deaf.


Dilworth earned undergraduate and master's degrees in education at Northwestern and completed post-masters study at NSU, LSU-Shreveport, Louisiana Tech and Grambling. He is currently the superintendent of Montgomery Public Schools in Montgomery, Ala., where he is the instructional and operational leader for Alabama's third largest school district.

Machen graduated from Northwestern in 1959 with a degree in health and physical education and a minor in math. He earned a mas-


ter's degree in education from Northeastern Louisiana University in 1966 and completed +30 at NSU in 1974. He began his career as a math and P.E. teacher and coach at three schools before moving to Winnfield in 1966, where he was a football coach and P.E. and math teacher at Winnfield Jr. High and Winnfield High School. He served as principal at Winnfield Senior High from 1975-1992.

Payne earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from NSU in 1957 and 1968, specialist in education in 1969 and doctorate in education in 1973. In a career spanning 45 years, Payne was a music educator for 20 years in Louisiana and 25 years in Texas, including four years as director of bands at NSU. During that time, Payne led his bands in numerous outstanding competitive performances and was recognized with several professional honors.


SPOTLIGHTS

 **Brian Coatney** (2001), director of orchestras at Plano, Texas, Senior High School, won Honor Full Orchestra class 5A High School for the state of Texas. Only one orchestra per year is selected for this honor. Brian's orchestra will perform at the Texas Music Educators Association Conference in San Antonio in February 2009.

Brian's father Royce Coatney won the same honor two years ago. Royce didn't attend NSU, but he sent all of his children to Northwestern for their education.

 **Robert C. Crosby** (1961) was inducted into the C.E. Byrd High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame in October. Crosby, who graduated from Byrd in 1957, is a private investor, certified public accountant and president of Crosby Enterprises in Shreveport. He manages real estate development, residential and light commercial construction, accounts receivable factoring, manufacturing and oil and gas development and operations.

Crosby earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting at NSU.

 ValueOptions, Inc., the nation's largest independent behavioral health care provider, has named **Eddy D. Broadway** (1988) chief executive officer of ValueOptions New Mexico. Broadway will start his new position by April 21.

Broadway most recently held the position of deputy director for the Arizona Department of Health Services. In that position, he oversaw the operations and administrative management of the Community Behavioral Health System and Children's

Rehabilitation Services program, which provides services to more than 150,000 individuals.


Previously, Broadway was administrator for Behavioral Health and Children's Rehabilitation Services for the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. In that position, he had oversight of behavioral health and children's rehabilitation services contracts.

Prior to that, Broadway held the position of division chief for Quality and Utilization Management Operations for the Arizona Department of Health Services.


Broadway has also held hospital senior management positions at Memorial Hospital/Sand Hill Behavioral Health in Gulfport, Miss.; as well as at Brentwood Hospital and Caddo Oaks Hospital, both in Shreveport, La.

Broadway is a member of the Arizona Behavioral Health Planning Council. He is an ex-officio member of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board and the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership. He is an advisory board member for the Arizona State University School of Social Work.

In addition to earning an undergraduate degree at Northwestern, he holds a master's degree in health administration from Tulane University in New Orleans and a master's degree in social work from Grambling State University.

 A research paper by **Dr. Daniel Hellman** (1990), a faculty member at Missouri State University, has been published in *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*. The peer-reviewed article "Do Music Education Majors Intend to Teach

Music? An Exploratory Survey," appears in the fall/winter 2008 edition of *Update*. *Update* is the leading journal for music educators whose focus is to bring current research to both scholars and practitioners in music education; the journal is published the Music Educators National Conference.

 **Crystal Mallett** has been recognized by Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education as a Teacher of Honor. The new Teacher of Honor recognition program honors practicing teachers with three or more years of professional experience who demonstrate commitment to continuous professional growth and integrity in the classroom. Mallett is an English teacher at Pineville High School. A three-year educator, she has served as Pineville's representative to IMAC training, which educates and trains teachers to be mentors and coaches for technology innovations. Mallett was instrumental in developing curriculum guidelines for her schools' English Language Honors and Gifted program. Mallett was one of nine teachers nationwide to receive the honor. She created a portfolio of letters, pictures and other evidence to show her involvement in her school, students and community.

Mallett graduated from the Louisiana Scholars' College at Northwestern in 2005 with a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education. She then taught gifted and honors classes at Pineville Junior High for three school years. During that time she completed a master's of education degree with a concentration in special education and gifted at NSU, graduating earlier this year.

Deville designer of Christmas Festival poster

Denise Deville (1993) is the artist of the 2008 Natchitoches Christmas Festival poster, unveiled in October. A native and resident of Natchitoches, Deville is a self-employed artist working through her business, Art by DeVille, specializing fleur de lis and Louisiana scenery. She also does commission work for individuals and businesses and, catering to sports fans, has a line of Northwestern State, LSU and New Orleans Saints theme paintings. Her work is included in private collections and can be seen on exhibit at businesses in Natchitoches.

Christmas Festival posters are for sale through the Natchitoches Arts Council. Proceeds help to fund art programming in the Natchitoches area, including a scholarship for an NSU art student.



Piehler recognized as top conservationist

Senior environmental specialist Chris M. Piehler (1980, 1983) with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was honored in March 2008 with the Governor's Award for conservation achievement. The award is presented annually by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation to the person or organization deemed to have made the most outstanding contribution toward the protection and wise use of the state's natural resources – air, soil and minerals, forests, waters, fish and wildlife – during the previous year from among nominations submitted by the public. The selection for this and eight other awards was made by a panel of independent judges with expertise in a wide range of conservation fields:

Piehler was presented with a statuette of a bald eagle during the 44th



Piehler

Conservation Achievement Recognition Banquet in New Iberia where the Louisiana Wildlife Federation convened for its 69th meeting. The awards were presented by Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Robert Barham, representing Gov. Bobby Jindal and Dr. Earl Matthew, Region Director of the National Wildlife

Federation.

Piehler of Baton Rouge was recognized for his outstanding performance in managing the DEQ's Mercury Program and developing the state's Mercury risk Reduction Plan, including abatement measures that will help reduce mercury contamination in the environment and citizen exposure to toxic levels and forms of this common earth element. Through his efforts, the public is much more aware of Louisiana's mercury problem and the state has taken significant steps to address it.

Piehler earned an undergraduate degree in wildlife management at NSU in 1980 and a masters degree in botany in 1983. He began his career with Civil Service in 1982 and worked with several state agencies, specializing in aquatic resource management.



Neva Norsworthy Guinn shows Frances Conine and Chris Maggio her IM badges as they look through Potpourri yearbooks from Guinn's college days. Guinn is wearing the purple jacket she wore as a member of Purple Jackets, which she also donated to the organization, along with other Northwestern memorabilia.

Purple Jackets gets memorabilia donation

Neva Norsworthy Guinn (1947) donated her Purple Jacket, her Potpourri yearbooks and other memorabilia to Purple Jackets. She included two badges she received for participating in women's intramural sports. Guinn fondly recalled Catherine Winters, her Purple Jackets sponsor, and her chemistry teacher Dr. Joe Webb, father of Dr. Randy Webb.

Guinn attended high school at Mt. Carmel near Florien in Sabine Parish. She was married to the late Dr. Earl Guinn, former president of Louisiana College. She was a science and chemistry teacher at the high school and college level and later spent much of her time supporting her husband in his career.

Mrs. Guinn was one of seven children whose mother was a teacher who had attended the Louisiana Normal School. Although her mother never graduated, her dream was that her children would earn college degrees. Mrs. Guinn and two of her sisters attended

Northwestern.

During her student days at Northwestern, Mrs. Guinn worked in the cafeteria to pay her tuition. She remembered fondly the days when the boys came home from World War II and talked about the excitement stirred on campus when they all returned. She loved serving the uniformed boys, who winked and smiled.

She remembered Purple Jackets as one of the great honors of her life and talked of the many dear friends she had in the organization.



Purple Jacket from the late '1940s'.

Miss NSU-LOB marking 50th anniversary

All previous recipients of the Miss Northwestern-Lady of the Bracelet title are invited to become part of this year's pageant and be presented on stage.

This year's competition will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7 in the A.A. Fredericks Fine Arts Auditorium.

For more information or to RSVP, call the Student Activities Office at (318) 357-6511 by Jan. 25.

Alumni Band Reorganizing

Approximately 50 former Northwestern Band members gathered on campus prior to the NSU football game on Sept. 27 in an effort to bring back the NSU Alumni Band Organization. During a lunch and business meeting, the group discussed the purposes and organization of the group and determined that members will pay \$40 annually towards membership in the NSU Alumni Association and NSU Alumni Band Association.

Additional plans were made to have at least two weekend activity days each fall with one in September and the other on the Homecoming day as defined by the University.

A reception was held in the Orville Hanchey Art Gallery prior to the football game.

If you would like to join the Alumni Band Organization, please contact Bill Brent at brent@nsula.edu for additional information.

Alumni Golf Scramble



First place winners in the NSU Alumni golf scramble on Oct. 24 were Francis DeLoney, David Wright (1970), Stuart Wright (1977) and Jay Bankston.



Second place winners in the Homecoming golf scramble were Jake Bray, Robert Leavines, Tyler Trichell and Drew Coombs.



Third place winners were Hall Adams, James Barrios and Levi Barry. Not shown is Thomas Hilton.

Homecoming Reunion



Several graduates of 1960 gathered during Homecoming weekend for a cocktail party and dinner. From left are Drake Owens Doyle Williams (1960), Karl Moore (1960), Linda Moore, Ellis Coutee (1960), Juanita Coutee (1958, 1960), Marlene Muse and Bill Muse (1960).

Baylor Tailgate Party



Amelie Wilson learns to cheer for the Demons at the NSU-Baylor tailgate party. Joining Amelie are her grandmother, Aimee Wright (1976), Jacque Crew (1965) and Amelie's mom Lindsay Wright Wilson (2001).

Louisiana Saturday Night New York



Louisiana Saturday Night was held at Live Bait in New York on Sept. 27. Joining the group were, above, Jessica Marasco (2004), Bruston Manuel (2003), Himanshu Singh (1999), Drake Owens (2004, 2005) and Sloan Snow (1997). Below are Michael Chance (1973) and Tom Berti (1969).



Northwestern gets windfall from mineral lease

Funds will be used for scholarships and faculty awards

NSU has honored the donor of 366 acres of DeSoto Parish farmland and the faculty member whose work over a number of years led to the gift.

NSU has established the John Henry Crow/Art Allen Scholarship and the John Henry Crow/Art Allen Faculty Award to assist students and promote faculty research. The \$2.4 million endowed scholarship fund and \$1 million faculty award fund were set up with funds Northwestern recently received from a mineral lease on property Crow donated to Northwestern in 1972.

Northwestern received \$4.4 million from the lease and will spend \$1 million on capital projects and acquisitions to enhance the campus. The \$4.4 million payment has been invested in an interest-bearing bank account.

University officials hope Northwestern will receive additional funds from the mineral lease negotiated by the State Mineral Board. Vice President for University Affairs Marcus Jones said the university would also receive 25 percent of royalties on natural gas

produced on the property. Should production not begin within one year, Northwestern would receive an additional \$2.2 million and will receive another \$2.2 million payment if production does not begin within two years.

Allen, a retired professor of biological sciences, worked with Crow at his pecan orchards using more modern methods to develop pecans that were larger and more resistant to disease.

Allen, who now lives in Maine, visited Crow on his farm once or twice a week during the growing season. Crow had no heirs.

"We were sitting on the back of his pickup truck having lunch and out of the blue he said 'What am I going to do with all this land, the pecan trees, the pasture,'" said Allen. "I was caught so flat-footed, I asked him to consider donating the land to the university for use as a place for students to do field studies. I think he was interested in what I said, but we dropped that subject and started talking about other things and never discussed it again."

Crow died in 1972. Allen said the news of the mineral lease and subsequent establishment of the scholarship and faculty award fund were pleasant surprises.

The university hopes to award about 30 scholarships each year of \$500 per semester. The number of scholarships could vary based on interest earned. The scholarships can be awarded for up to four years. Recipients must meet one of the following characteristics: achieved academic excellence; demonstrated integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity; have an outstanding record in co-curricular or community activities, demonstrated financial need; exhibit qualities of truth, courage or fellowship or seeking re-entry into the work force or advancement within a career field. Students receiving the scholarship must also maintain a 2.5 grade point average.

Criteria for the John Henry Crow/Art Allen Faculty Award are being established.

Memorial scholarship established to honor former dean



Baumgardner

A scholarship has been established in memory of Dr. Ray Baumgardner, a former faculty member and dean-provost at Northwestern State University's Fort Polk campus and assistant to the vice president for academic affairs. His wife, Mrs. Sherry Baumgardner, established the \$10,000 scholarship through a donation and pledge to the NSU Foundation to endow the Dr. Ray

Baumgardner Memorial Scholarship in Science. The scholarship will benefit students involved with the military. Other requirements include a 2.5 grade point average and a financial need.

A native of Colorado, Baumgardner came to Northwestern as an assistant professor of biology in 1965. He retired in 1996, having served as head of the Department

of Biological Sciences, registrar, dean/provost of NSU's Fort Polk campus and assistant to the vice president for academic affairs.

He was the second dean and provost for the NSU Education Center at Fort Polk after the university established the center in 1976. The NSU Fort Polk campus saw tremendous growth in enrollment during his service there. He returned to the Natchitoches campus to work from 1994 until his retirement. Baumgardner died in 1999.

"Northwestern was his life," said Mrs. Baumgardner of her husband's commitment to the university. "He also had a lot of respect for the military and he himself had attended college on the GI Bill."

"Dr. Baumgardner personified the great traits of our university. He cared so much about his students," said NSU Sports Information Director Doug Ireland, a good friend of Baumgardner.

Contributions to the scholarship can be made to the NSU Foundation by contacting Jill Bankston by calling (318) 357-4241 or e-mailing bankstonj@nsula.edu.

Grant will help expand nursing program to rural areas

Northwestern will make nursing education more accessible to north and central Louisiana through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The University has received a \$191,593 to fund "Bridging the Gap in Health Care in Selected Rural Communities in Louisiana."

According to Project Director Dr. Darlene Williams, the vice president for Technology, Research and Economic Development at Northwestern, the goal is to expand access to associate, baccalaureate, masters and continuing education programs in nursing to selected rural communities in Louisiana via distance learning technologies.

Northwestern delivers academic and other services to satellite campuses in Shreveport, Leesville and Alexandria and smaller campuses located in Jonesville and Ferriday. The primary purpose of this project is to support the nursing curricula offerings.

Funding will be used for the acquisition of distance learning and related computer equipment to enhance the sites in Shreveport, Natchitoches, and Ferriday with contemporary technology to support student instruction and learning; related software, support equipment and supplies will complete the project.

"This upgraded instructional infra-

structure will accord our students in remote and rural learning sites with equitable learning, library and resource support within their local communities," said Dean of the College of Nursing Dr. Norann Planchock.

Williams said the proposed system is composed of video and web-based technologies. The system will include state-of-the-art multimedia, video teleconferencing classrooms located in Shreveport, Natchitoches and Ferriday. Instructional courseware will be used to deliver instruction via video teleconferencing and hypertext protocols.

Spirit of Northwestern's campaign for new uniforms continues

The Spirit of Northwestern is about halfway towards its goal in the "Close the Gap" campaign, which is seeking funds to replace the band's tattered uniforms. New uniforms are set to debut in Fall 2009.

"We really appreciate those folks who have supported us in this campaign," said Bill Brent, director of bands and coordinator of Creative and Performing Arts. "The students are pumped about getting new uniforms. Ours are now worn and many are faded. These new uniforms will also help recruiting and retention."

The SON's current uniforms are nearly 13 years old, five years older than the average lifespan of a uni-

form. The cost of each uniform is \$400 and Spirit of Northwestern alumni and friends have been encouraged to help meet the fund raising goal.

"The band is the largest spirit group on campus and we try to send representatives to several events throughout the year other than football games, including basketball, baseball and even soccer games from time to time," Brent said.

For more information, contact Brent at (318) 357-4522 or e-mail him at brent@nsula.edu. Information is also available on the band's home page, nsula.edu/demondband.



**Continuing
the tradition
of excellence...**



Six outstanding members of the NSU faculty were recognized for their contributions to the university and their individual colleges as recipients of this year's Excellence in Teaching Awards. The teachers were selected by their peers and were recognized during Homecoming. From left are Drake Owens congratulating Dr. Zafer Hatahet, Dr. Marcus Jones, Dr. Karen McFerrin, Dr. Wade Tyler and Dr. Lisa Wolfe. Not shown is Dr. Susan Pierce.

New communications degree will be available in 2009

NSU will begin offering a Bachelor of Arts in Communication degree program this spring.

The program will be housed within the Department of Language and Communication. According to Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Head of the Department of Language and Communication Dr. Lisa Abney, the program will have several positive impacts.

"We are delighted to be able to offer such a unique and versatile program. This should be yet another way to assist in the training of Louisiana's workforce," Abney said.

The degree program will have three concentrations: organizational communication, health communication and rhetoric.

In the study of rhetoric and public address students will learn the history and theory upon which persuasive skills are based. These skills are appropriate in any discipline, but essential in pre-law, political science, journalism, public administration and an array of areas within business.

The organizational communication concentration examines the effects that organizational structure and membership have on human communication. This concentration will help students develop verbal and written communication skills vital to understanding organizational communication including critical thinking, problem solving and understanding human behavior in an organizational culture. Organizational

communication emphasizes communication theories, strategies and tactics essential to corporate success.

The health communication concentration focuses on communication in a variety of contexts within the health care environment. Students study communication interaction between health professionals and patients/clients and health promotion communication strategies. Students are also prepared for working with individuals from diverse backgrounds and within the health education field.

For more information contact Abney at (318) 357-4330 or visit the NSU Department of Language and Communication Web site at www.nsula.edu/langcomm.

African-American family donates wartime letters to library

Northwestern State University's Cammie G. Henry Research Center received a donation from a Natchitoches family that will be included in archives relevant to the history of the African American community in Natchitoches.

Grace Baptiste Thomas donated items relating to her brother Charles Ray Thomas, a U.S. Army Private in the 644th Transportation Corps Truck Company, who was stationed at Flak Caserne, Munich, Germany, when he was shot and killed in a rifle accident

in 1946.

The donation includes Thomas's portrait, three letters to his mother, Sarah Polk, and the certificate of honor signed by President Harry Truman.

"These items bring the tragic story alive and the documents are part of the Thomas family and the history of the African American community in Natchitoches," said Mary Linn Wernet, NSU archivist. "The donation of these family papers to NSU will allow researchers from this area

and from the rest of the world to read the papers and write about this event."

The donation is the first to the Research Center from an African American family, Wernet said.

"The Cammie G. Henry Research Center envisions the day when the African American Museum is open and the portrait and accompanying documentation is offered as a lot to the African American Museum," she said.

ULS initiates exchange program with French university

Representatives from the Pôle Universitaire Léonard de Vinci in Paris visited Northwestern State recently as part of a statewide tour to strengthen higher education relations between France and Louisiana. The University of Louisiana System has created a partnership with Pôle Universitaire Léonard de Vinci that includes student and faculty exchange opportunities.

The partnership covers students in business, engineering, technology, computer science and visual arts, and includes the reciprocal exchange of faculty, staff and students; development of international student programs; hosting of visiting scholars and study tours/summer

sessions; and organization of joint academic and scientific activities such as courses, conferences, seminars, symposia or lectures. The partnership also includes enrollment of highly qualified students in undergraduate and/or graduate studies and development of textbooks, journal articles, or other scholarly publications.

Pôle Universitaire Léonard de Vinci is within Paris' business district, La Defense, and has three schools: engineering, management and multimedia. The French university has international partnerships with universities in Spain, China, Canada, Korea, Italy, Australia, South Africa, Switzerland and the U.S.

Sixty years later, memories still strong for 48-49 team

Claude "Jodie" Stoutamire and Bernard "Tussie" Waggoner were the leading scorers for the legendary 1948-49 Northwestern State Demons basketball team, but that's not how they remember it.

Savoring the 60th anniversary of a 23-5 season that saw the Demons reach the national semifinals, they couldn't care less about their statistics. They are proud of the team's accomplishments, but their real treasures are the lifelong friendships among their teammates and the memories of the coaches who were their mentors.

Each of them enjoys occasional looks at a black and white team photograph, a copy of which is framed and matted, hanging on the wall outside the Demon basketball offices near the front doors of Prather Coliseum.

"They were my best friends then," said Stoutamire, a Tallahassee, Fla., native and lifelong resident, except for his military service and college years. "They are still my best friends today."

"I was lucky to play with a group of young men with high character, above

average talent and great determination. Each of them was very successful later in life. I'm very thankful to have been associated with that group," he said.

It's a sentiment shared by all of the surviving players, a tight-knit group then and now.

"It was a great group of guys who played together," said Waggoner. "Sometimes that togetherness gets overshadowed, but it's so important to success. We didn't worry too much about who scored. It was always a team effort. We just wanted to win."

The team came together in the wake of World War II. Some players were military veterans. In Stoutamire's case, being in the Army carried him away from an offer to play for the Florida Gators following the war. Stationed at Camp Claiborne south of Alexandria, he played on a team that visited Northwestern to take on the Demons.

"In those days, we played the military teams. They were full of talented players, at Fort Polk, Barksdale, Lake Charles," said Waggoner. "That's how Coach (H. Lee) Prather saw Stoutamire, when Camp Claiborne came to play us."

"That game at Northwestern changed my life," remembered Stoutamire. "When we went up to play there, I was able to spend some time walking around the campus and town, and I just fell in love with Natchitoches. That's the reason I went to Northwestern when Coach Prather asked me, instead of staying home in Florida."

Nearing the end of his 36 seasons as the Demons' coach, and about to become the university president a short while later, Prather was a revered figure on campus.

"He was a remarkable fellow. He was a lawyer and taught pre-law classes. He was the Dean of Men," said Stoutamire. "As the coach, he was strictly business. He wanted you to practice just as hard and as well as you played in the games."



"Coach Prather didn't mince any words," echoed Johnny "Hound" McConathy, a reserve forward in his sophomore season in 1948-49, when his older brother J.L. was one of the Demons' top performers. "Nobody ever gave a thought to breaking the training rules. Practices were basically scrimmages each day. We played a game every day, and when you got into a real game, there weren't many surprises."

"He used reverse psychology with a lot of us, and that was certainly true for



Waggoner



Stoutamire

me. He'd challenge you, tell you that you didn't seem good enough to help the team. If you're a competitor, that would be all the push you needed."

Waggoner sees lots of Prather in McConathy's son Mike, who is beginning his 10th season as the Demons' most successful coach since, well, Prather himself.

"Coach Prather was what I consider Mike to be like. The style isn't quite the same, but Mike is no nonsense. He has high standards for his players. Coach Prather was a Christian man and whatever he told you, we could believe. I enjoyed playing for him, and we all did."

The winter months were thrilling times for Natchitoches and NSC 60 years ago.

"The gym was packed. If you weren't early, you couldn't get in. The spirit was so much a part of our campus. That was our life. There weren't dozens of TV channels, all the entertainment options the kids have now. Cars were a luxury. Hardly anyone had one," said Waggoner. "I didn't have any way to get home to Tullos other than riding a little ole bus."

There was no bus ride as the Demons prepared for their third straight National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball tournament in Kansas City.

They boarded the Southern Belle Railroad for the trip north with a full head of steam. The Demons had won nine straight games, capturing the Gulf States Conference championship and the regional title with a two-game sweep of Centenary. They toppled Puget Sound 70-58 in their first game in Kansas City, then scored a stunning 59-57 triumph over the tournament's top seed in the national quarterfinals.

"Beating Brigham Young, that was a big thrill. That wasn't supposed to happen, and it did," said Waggoner. "The following game (against Regis College) came down to the wire, but we weren't so fortunate."

Today, to borrow a famous line by Lou Gehrig, they feel like the luckiest men on the face of the earth.

"It doesn't seem like 60 years has passed, but it certainly has. I'm just proud to have been part of it," said McConathy. "We were a competitive bunch and we had great support on campus and in town."

That squad stands alongside the 2005-06 Demons, who won 26 games and defeated 15th-ranked Iowa in the NCAA Tournament, regarded as the most accomplished teams in nearly a century of basketball tradition at Northwestern.

"We never thought about how we'd be remembered. We were having so much fun," said Stoutamire. "It was simply the time of our lives."

N Club Induction



The Graduate N Club Hall of Fame ceremonies were held during Homecoming 2008 to honor prominent figures in Northwestern's athletic history. Among the participants were, front row from left, Robyn Justin, Dr. E. Loneta Graves, Randy Hilliard, along with Graduate N Club secretary Gil Gilson. Standing are Selvestion Jimes, Thomas Foster, Jack Rogers, Mike Brown, Harold Gene Smith, Jack Bice and Coach Walter Ledet. Not shown is Demons football head coach Scott Stoker, who left after his induction to prepare his team for their 34-16 victory over Sam Houston State. Graves received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Foster was presented honorary Graduate N Club membership and Jimes, Rogers, Ledet, Bice and Smith were recognized as part of the 1955-58 mile relay teams honored with the inaugural Dream Team Award.



In September, descendents of Coach H. Lee Prather visited Natchitoches and spent time with Coach Mike McConathy at Prather Coliseum. Shown along with McConathy — whose father played for Coach Prather in 1948-49 — are great grandson William Prather, center, holding his son, Evan Crisp Prather, and William's wife Wendi, with their infant daughter. A portrait of Coach Prather hangs in the background.

Demon Athletes' GPAs highest in state

Northwestern State officials were pleased upon the release of the NCAA's 2008 Graduation Success Rates (GSR) study showing NSU is Louisiana's highest-ranking public institution in the report with across-the-board strong performances in each of its sports.

Northwestern posted an overall 75 percent GSR score, topping all public institutions and trailing only Centenary (86 percent) and Tulane (81 percent) among the state's 13 NCAA Division I athletics programs. That score also placed Northwestern third among the 12 Southland Conference member institutions, topped only by 78 percent GSR scores by Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Texas State.

Eight of Northwestern's 10 sports recorded all-time high scores in the 2008 report released by the NCAA in October.

"This most recent GSR report is a testament to the emphasis on academic achievement that has been in place at NSU for many years. Priority number one within the NSU athletic program, and something which is emphasized to both current and prospective student-athletes, is for them to earn a degree which will have a positive impact on their future," said Director of Athletics Greg Burke.

"It is a credit to all involved – academic support staff, faculty, coaches and student-athletes – that the graduation rate at NSU continues to rise in record-setting fashion. It's also important to note that the many donors to the NSU Athletic Association play a vital role in this success story. It's their backing and donations that fund scholarships and academic support services which have helped us achieve at a relatively high level," Burke said.



NSU alumnus Kenta Bell, left, a member of the U.S. track and field team at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, received an Nth Degree award from Director of Athletics Greg Burke during Homecoming Festivities Oct. 25. Bell, a native of Kilgore, Texas, was a three-time All-American in the triple jump for the Demons before graduating in 2000 with a business degree. He was part of Team USA at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, where he finished ninth the triple jump. He is the only two-time Olympian in Northwestern history. The Nth Degree is presented to individuals who have brought great credit to the university through their service and accomplishments.



Joseph Dow (1963), owner of Dow Fencing Company in Houston, was recognized at halftime of the Oct. 25 Homecoming game as an honorary letterman in recognition of the assistance he provided for the Second Century Circle fencing project. Dow's company, which also created the gates at four campus entrances, helped defray the cost of fencing materials and installation for the football, baseball, softball, track and soccer facilities. From left are NSU Athletic Director Greg Burke, Dow, Associate Athletic Director William Broussard and NSU President Randy Webb.

SPORTS NOTES



Cook, Willis baseball jersey retirements set Feb. 7

Two of the greatest baseball players in school history will be honored with the retirement of their jerseys on the evening of Saturday, Feb. 7, as the NSU Demon baseball program celebrates the upcoming season with the Leadoff Dinner.

Billy Roy Cook and Jim Willis will join Jim Wells and Brian Lawrence with their jerseys shown on the outfield wall at Brown-Stroud Field.

Cook was a record-shattering pitcher for the Demons who had 29 victories from 1956-59, still a school record 50 years later. He was a dominating factor in Gulf States Conference play.

Willis was a two-sport competitor who became the first Northwestern baseball player to reach the Major Leagues. He pitched for the Chicago Cubs in 1952-53 and was also a standout basketball player on the 1948-49 team that reached the national semifinals under coach H. Lee Prather.

For more information about the Leadoff Dinner and ceremonies honoring Cook and Willis, contact baseball coach J. P. Davis at 318-357-4139 or check the www.nsudemons.com website.

Basketball reunions set Feb. 14, March 7

Former team members of the NSU basketball programs have their annual reunions upcoming, on Saturday, Feb. 14 for the Lady Demons and Saturday, March 7 for the Demons.

The reunions will take place at Prather Coliseum in conjunction with 2 o'clock home games for NSU. Graduate N Club Hall of Fame induction ceremonies will also be held honoring basketball players at each reunion.

For more information on the Lady Demon reunion, contact Mandy Walmsley at 318-357-5891 or write coach Jennifer Graf at grafj@nsula.edu via e-mail.

To get details on the Demons' reunion, contact Colene Bonnette at 318-357-4274 or coach Mike McConathy at mikem@nsula.edu via e-mail.

Additional information, including the announcement

of the Graduate N Club enshrinees, is available at www.nsudemons.com on the internet.

Former players for both sports should receive information about the reunion in early January.

Southland Conference Tournament March 11-15 in metro Houston

Northwestern supporters are encouraged to converge on Katy, Texas, and the Merrell Center alongside I-10 west of downtown Houston for the 2009 Southland Conference Basketball Tournament presented by State Farm Insurance from March 11-15.

The Demons are aiming for their record fifth consecutive SLC Tournament championship game appearance and their second NCAA Tournament berth in four seasons.

The Lady Demons hope to make their 11th appearance in the women's championship game, their first under coach Jennifer Graf.

Tickets are available exclusively through the NSU athletic ticket office for seats in the Northwestern section at the Merrell Center. Contact the ticket office at 318-357-4268 or e-mail ticket manager Zach Williams at williamsj@nsula.edu for more information, or visit www.nsudemons.com to make secure online purchases.

Baseball, softball reunions set for same mid-April weekend

For the first time, the annual reunions for NSU baseball and softball teams will be held on the same weekend. Both NSU teams have home series on the April 17-19 weekend against Texas State.

The baseball reunion will begin with the Friday night series opener and continue with single games each day through Sunday. The softball reunion will officially begin with the Saturday, April 18 doubleheader and wrap up the next day.

Both reunions will include postgame meals with the current teams at the field after the Saturday games. For more information including game times, check www.nsudemons.com online or call the NSU athletics department at 318-357-5251.

Alumni Updates

1940

Eva Odell Dowden Burch is retired and lives in DeRidder.

1948

Betty Jayne Miller Hardin is retired and lives in Magnolia, Ark.

1950

Joe Melancon is a retired fighter pilot, married and lives in Colorado, Springs, Colo.

1957

Karl P. Kammer is retired and lives in Naples, Fla.

1958

Melba Jean Baudry Smith is retired and lives in Pineville.

1961

Gordon Solliday is retired, married and lives in Mission Viejo, Calif.

1967

Cliff Mugnier is employed by Louisiana State University's Department of Civil Engineering as the Chief of Geodesy-C4G and lives in Baton Rouge.

1969

Renee' Bates Mayher is retired, married and lives in Cookeville, Tenn.

1970

Cyndee Osborne Ranes is a small business administration loan officer for the United States Government,

married and lives in Arlington.

1971

Robert L. Gates is the principal at South Crowley Elementary, married and lives in Crowley.

Linda Phillips James is a retired teacher, married and lives in Lufkin, Texas.

1972

Clinton Womack is employed by Nev. Department of Corrections as a substance abuse counselor and lives in Carson City, Nev.

Milton (Mick) J. Lacefield is retired and lives in Frisco, Texas.

1974

John S. Robinson is a partner in the accounting firm of Marcus, Robinson & Hassell, CPA, married to Vicki Rabalais Robinson ('74) and lives in Monroe.

1975

Ellan Griffin Baggett is supervisor of personnel for Acadia Parish School Board and lives in Crowley.

Belinda Flowers Birch is retired and lives in Jonesboro.

Barbara Campbell Dodge is a clinical director for the State of Louisiana - DHH and lives in Eunice.

1976

Cecilia Bess Carson

Miller is currently a homemaker involved in medical auxiliary work, Wilson N. Jones Physicians Spouses Association and Special Olympics. She is married and lives in Sherman, Texas.

1977

Zandra Haymon Grady is an eighth grade English language arts teacher at Leesville Jr. High and lives in Anacoco.

1978

Thomas Jefferson Phillips II is a chief engineer, married and lives in Many.

1980

Col. James Ferdinand Bowie is employed at Camp Beauregard as an inspector general for the state of Louisiana, married and lives in Alexandria.

1981

Donald Ray Webb is employed by Brooks Food Group as a manager, married to Linda Louise Bassham Webb ('80) and lives in Monroe, N.C.

Bill Timon is a general manager at Lasco Services, Inc., married and lives in Austin, Texas.

1982

Melaney Mydland Stein is a program manager for North Carolina Division of Services for the Blind, married and lives in Apex, N.C.

1986

Patricia Carroll Taylor is employed by the City of Shreveport as a

deputy marshal in the garnishment division. She is married and lives in Shreveport.

1987

Patricia SanMiguel is a payment reviewer for the state of Nebraska medicaid system, married and lives in Lincoln, Neb.

Lemuel Marshall Jr. is an operations supervisor at ATX Group and lives in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Marion Joy Matlock Jenkins is a staff registered nurse/ccu educator at Christus Schumpert Highland, married and lives in Plain Dealing

Anthony Dean Thompson is an associate professor at East Carolina University, married and lives in Greenville, N.C.

1988

Monte' Johnson Woods is employed by Beauregard Parish School Board as a teacher and lives in DeRidder.

1989

Melissa Cox Latvala is director of sales & catering for Alliance Hospitality and lives in Hilliard, Ohio.

1990

Renee Guillory Simoneaux is director of adult services at The Frazer Center and lives in Woodstock, Ga.

Felicia Hardey is a programmer analyst at Computer Research Inc. and lives in Northglenn, Colo.

1992

David Middleton Green is a senior accounting manager at Vanderbilt Home Care Services, Inc. and lives in Hendersonville, Tenn.

Tanya Freeman Billings is stay-at-home mom, married to Ronald "Rusty" Coburn Billings ('96) and lives in Bossier City.

Rachel Penny Cunningham is employed by the Natchitoches Parish School Board as a master teacher, married and lives in Natchitoches.

Lura Jean Ellison Brezina is the PCC of staff development at Willis Knighton South, married and lives in Shreveport.

Michael Dwain Guillory is director of outpatient services/ASU at Rapides Regional Medical Center, married and lives in Marksville.

1993

Lawrence Johnson is employed by Nissan North America as the senior manager of global infiniti marketing and lives in Franklin, Tenn.

1994

Janis Metoyer Barbin is employed by Central Control LLC as an accountant and lives in Marksville.

Shannon Bolin Ebarb is employed by Community ISD as a special education teacher and lives in Lavon, Texas.

Kelvin Pierre is a program manager for Hewlett-Packard and lives in Ponchatoula.

1995

Lisa Marie Moehrl is a certified registered nurse anesthetist and lives in Broken Arrow, Okla.

Jennifer Lyn Rowland Atwater is a library technician at JMF St. Mawgan Station Library, married and lives in England.

Eve Cox Mitchell is employed by Natchitoches Parish School Board as a teacher, married to Luke Mitchell ('03) and lives in Natchitoches.

1996

Nikole N. Mock is a technical support specialist for MediaFLO USA and lives in San Diego, Calif.

Cassandra Savoy Guilbeau is employed by the American Heart Association as a senior regional director and lives in Lake Charles.

Casey Capel Vercher is employed by Acadia Parish School Board as a curriculum facilitator and lives in Crowley.

Shea Eaves is a research assistant/animal care at the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies and lives in Gulfport, Miss.

Ronald "Rusty" Coburn Billings is employed by State Farm Insurance as an agent, married to Tanya Freeman

Billings ('92) and lives in Bossier City.

1997

Sherre Annette Mitchell Morse is a counselor at Oak Hill High School, married and lives in Hinston.

Stacey Burford Capp is a registered nurse at East Texas Medical Center, married and lives in Tyler, Texas.

1998

Kimberly Marler Sumrall is employed by CVS Pharmacy as a photo lab supervisor, married and lives in Alexandria.

Shantura Stephens Payne is a file clerk at Peoples State Bank, married and lives in Natchitoches.

Brandi Rene' DeVore Lacey is a registered vet technician at Sulphur Animal Clinic, married and lives in Sulphur.

Delores Miller is a teacher at Mansfield Elementary Middle School and lives in Mansfield.

1999

Mandy Allen Knight is employed by St. Landry EMS as an EMT-basic and lives in Lafayette.

Jana Whitehead is employed by Rapides Parish School Board as a pupil appraisal social worker and lives in Pineville.

Emily Tracy is employed by Daiichi-Sankyo in pharmaceutical sales and lives in Alexandria.

2000

Lori Anne Anzaldúa-McKay is an instructor of Fine Arts and Educational Technology at NSU.

Michella Amos Young is an instructor for PC Center and lives in Desoto, Texas.

2001

Jessica Quigley is a program therapist at NorthPointe Family Center and lives in Carrollton, Texas.

Leonard J. Jones is a senior functional analyst at General Dynamics and lives in Fayetteville, N.C.

2002

Ashlee Freeman Miller is employed as a SVP in strategic business development at SWS Group and lives in Frisco, Texas.

Crystal Robbins Roberts is in private practice as a licensed professional counselor and lives in Biloxi, Miss.

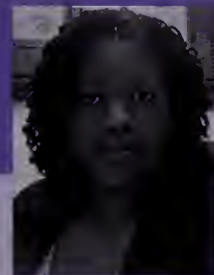
Julia Higginbotham is a yoga teacher, massage therapist and, musician and lives in Austin, Texas.

Dr. Cade Brumley is the principal at Converse High School, married to Toni Lynn Vail Brumley ('02) and lives in Converse.

Toni Lynn Vail Brumley is a counselor at North DeSoto High School, married to Cade Brumley ('02) and lives in Converse.

Stephanie Martin Chamberlin is a funeral

Alumni Profile



Detris Anderson

Detris Anderson (1993) believes that the success of children falls on all of our shoulders and high expectations need to be evident regarding their education.

"Children learn best when they are in a learning environment that has been shaped by developmentally appropriate and research-based practices," she said. "I believe that strong leadership is a critical component of that success."

Anderson is utilizing this philosophy in her first year as principal of Lucy Elementary School in Millington, Tenn., a suburb of Memphis. Anderson is the former assistant principal at Dexter Middle School in Millington.

After graduating from NSU, Anderson worked in Shreveport for one year before moving to Memphis. She was a Shelby County middle school teacher for 10 years, teaching reading, social studies and computer technology before becoming assistant principal at Dexter Middle for three years. During that time, she earned a master's degree from the University of Memphis and is currently working towards her doctorate.

She plans to emphasize family and community involvement to improve the school, improve

teaching and learning and expand the school's fine arts department.

Anderson is a native of Natchitoches and graduated from Natchitoches Central High School in 1983. Although no longer married, she traveled for several years with her husband, who was in the military and lived in New Jersey, California and Alaska. She has two children, Sharita, 23, and James, 19. Her hobbies include all types of technology, reading, bowling, listening to music and watching science fiction. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Iota Mu Chapter at NSU.

Anderson said her time as assistant principal at Dexter Middle prepared her for her new role as principal at Lucy.

"Lucy is a great school," she said. "It's a community school. There's a lot of pride here; they do a lot of great things."

Anderson is hoping that parent involvement with the school will increase as more families witness the area's community involvement with the school.

"I want this to continue to be a great school, and to make that happen we're going to need the family involvement," she said. "I want them to soar high above the rest. I want them to stand out."



Alumni Profile

Dr. Gayle Juneau

Dr. Gayle Juneau describes her educational pathways as accidental, but said that during her time at NSU, she had many mentors “cheering me towards success during my years as a student.” She described her education as transformational and says that through empowering internship experiences and NSU’s robust academic program, she was well equipped to compete and advance in her field of academic advising.

Juneau, a native of Moreauville, earned a degree in general studies at NSU in 1995 and a master’s in student personnel services in 1997. After graduation, she was hired as an admissions counselor for the University of West Florida. Two years later, she was promoted to the position of academic advisor for the university and eventually hired to serve as director in the creation of the Professional Studies Student Center for academic advising, recruitment and retention of students in the College of Professional Studies. She is currently the executive director of Academic Advising at University of Nevada - Las Vegas.

“In my position as executive director of Academic Advising, I am responsible for the leadership of UNLV’s 11 academic advising centers,” she said. “Specifically, I work with policy creation and implementation, assessment of academic advising, budget for hiring and pro-

fessional development, general education and transfer committee leadership.” She also directs the school and college Academic Advising Council as well as the seven academic advising commissions sponsored by UNLV. She is actively involved with the national academic advising association, NACADA, in terms of presentations and publications.

“Growing up in a working class family, I had no frame of reference nor were there expectations for me to earn a graduate degree,” Gayle said.

She first enrolled at NSU as a secondary education major, but her interest quickly faded in an era of shifting accountability. She considered optometry, but was too far into her curriculum to graduate in a reasonable amount of time, so she opted for general studies and focused on graduate school.

“By way of my work in Student Support Services, I met graduate assistants in the Student Personnel Services program who encouraged me to consider the program. It was a turn-of-events that has shaped the entirety of my professional career,” she said.

At NSU, Gayle found mentors by way of her student work assignments.

“During my undergraduate degree, I was encouraged by Gail Jones and Don Barker in Student Support Services and Dr. Virginia

Crossno in home economics,” she said. “These individuals inspired academic enthusiasm in me long before I understood the connection with transformational education and professional opportunities. During my tenure as a graduate student, I was extremely fortunate to have Dr. Neelam Kher as a mentor who taught me discipline and passion for higher learning as well as strategic planning for professional advancement.”

During her years at UWF, Gayle taught introduction to diversity courses for College of Education students.

“Concurrent with the completion of my doctoral degree, I was hired by the UNLV to serve as the university’s first executive director of Academic Advising,” she said. “In addition, I am a part-time faculty member in the Department of Women’s Studies.”

Gayle remembers a special moment in Natchitoches.

“I remember the day in December that I turned in my paper-in-lieu of thesis to my graduate advisor, Dr. Neelam Kher. Elated, I realized I was going to graduate with a master’s degree. As I left the building, it started snowing lightly - a rare, rare experience in Natchitoches. To me, it was a sign from above about dedication leading to celebration!”

director at Rockett-Nettles Funeral Home, married to Rob Chamberlin ('03) and lives in Coushatta.

Wes Hardy is employed by Pasadena ISD and lives in Deer Park, Texas.

2003

Luke Douglas Mitchell is an attorney, married to Eve Cox Mitchell ('95) and lives in Natchitoches.

2004

Melissa Gilliam is a marketing coordinator at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, percussion and piano teacher. She lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Victoria Whitlock Brakhage is a paralegal at Carr Allison Law Firm and lives in Sterrett, Ala.

Joseph Brakhage is a programmer analyst at SunGard Data Systems and lives in Sterrett, Ala.

Chasity Summerville Jones is a loan counseling specialist at GMAC Rescap, married and lives in Lancaster, Texas.

Latosha Simpson is a teacher at Lieder Elementary School and lives in Katy, Texas.

Christy Groves is a fourth grade teacher at Pulaski Heights Elementary and lives in Benton, Ark.

2005

Tracy Leeper is employed by State Farm as a systems analyst and lives in Normal, Ill.

Jessica Mary Carman is a fifth grade teacher at Northwood High School, married and lives in Pineville.

Shandee Niswander is the owner of The Page Turner and lives in DeRidder.

Robin Mire is employed in accounts payable at Tidewater Marine and lives in Morgan City.

2006

Ella Bridges Owen is an administrative assistant at Ameriprise Financial, married to Justin C. Owen ('02) and lives in Shreveport.

Steven Mack is an executive assistant manager at Walgreens and lives in Edinburg, Texas.

John Smith is employed by Temple Independent School District as an English teacher and basketball coach and lives in Killeen, Texas.

Rebecca Withers Burch is employed by Desoto Parish Office of Community Services as a child welfare specialist-foster care, married and lives in Grand Cane.

Veronica Longworth May is employed by University Hospital in the Neonatal ICU as a registered nurse and lives in Cibolo, Texas.

Emily Bass is a territory manager/representative for Nestle and lives in Shreveport.

2007

Shadana Reliford

Palmer is a warboard clerk at Pilgrim's Pride, married and lives in Coushatta.

Jamie L. Cherry is a histocompatibility technician for Ochsner Medical Center and lives in River Ridge.

Amber Wallace Freeman is a rad tech at Natchitoches Regional Medical Center and lives in Natchitoches.

Rachal Liberto Thorne is in the accelerated BSN/MSN program at the Medical University of South Carolina and lives in Johns Island, S.C.

Denise Green Garland is an instructor/advisor for NSU's Office of Student Support Services and lives in Natchitoches.

Christian Abshire LeBrun is employed by CITGO Petroleum as a laboratory analyst and lives in Sulphur.

2008

Angela Finimore is employed by Bossier Parish School Board as a third grade science teacher and lives in Bossier City.

Shawna Miller is a CIT for the first JDC Caddo Drug Court and lives in Frierson.

Alison L. Holmes is employed by Northrop Grumman as a financial analyst and lives in DeRidder.

Sara Welch is a software/systems engineer III for USAA and lives in San Antonio.

In Memory

Dr. Clifford Hargis, January 6, 2003

Harry L. Kirk III, MD, September 24, 2008

Bronis Gray Moody, Enid, Oklahoma, October 8, 2008

1948 - Catherine Bondurant Prince, February 9, 2008

1952 - James Kenneth Howard, Shreveport, October, 5, 2008

1962 - Robert Escude, Mansura, March 31, 2008

1962 - Carmen Peevy Wingate, Baton Rouge, December 10, 2007

1966 - Jimmie Dale Johnson, Mandeville, September 10, 2008

1972 - R. Lyle Christensen, Jr. Ph.D, Austin, Texas, August 22, 2008

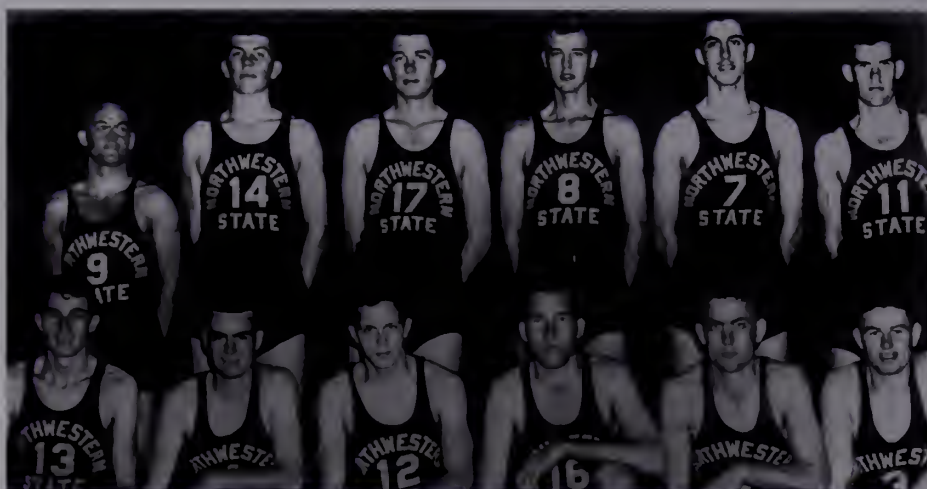
1974 - Bert Smith, Pineville, July 2, 2008

1979 - Paul Allen Porterfield, Shreveport, August 29, 2008



LOOKING BACK

Sixty years ago, Prather was the coach and McConathy was a sophomore forward, and Northwestern State was a brand new name. By the end of the 1948-49 season, fans not only around Louisiana, but many throughout the country knew about Northwestern State Demon basketball thanks to the exploits of what is considered the best of the 36 teams coach H. Lee Prather fielded at the college known until the mid-1940s as "Louisiana State Normal." The 1948-49 Demons won the Gulf States Conference title and roared into the NAIA national tournament in Kansas City, reaching the semifinals with a thrilling 59-57 victory over BYU. Regis College nipped Northwestern 52-51 to deny the Demons a shot at the national title. Coach Prather's team finished 23-5, which remained the most wins in a season at Northwestern until 2005-06, when Mike McConathy, whose dad Johnny



Members of the 1948-49 team were, front row from left, Jodie Stoutamire, George Morris, Dan Poole, Buddy Bates, Lynwood Outz and Herschel McConathy. On the back row are DeWitt "Peewee" Patten, Johnny McConathy, Leslie McConathy, Artie Ranew, Bernard Waggoner and Jim Willis.

played on the 1948-49 team, led the Demons to 26 wins, including a perfect 14-0 mark in Prather Coliseum. Coach Prather retired as coach in 1950 as the dean of USA basketball coaches and America's winningest

college coach at the time, with 473 victories. He became the college's president not long afterward and served four years. Prather Coliseum was dedicated in his memory in 1965, a year after his passing.

Guess Who?



Under the name Student Body Association, the Student Senate and Executive Council as organized by the revised SGA constitution went into effect during the 1971-72 academic year. Their efforts included sponsorship of political speakers, to inform the students on the upcoming elections, relaxing of rules for women on campus, trying to gain student discounts in the community and other services designed to benefit and inform the students. Can you name the senators-at-large from the 1971-72 Student Body Association? The first five readers to call the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414 will win a prize.

Congratulations to the following individuals who correctly identified the members of the 1968 football team who earned honors at the N Club awards banquet. They were seated from left, Tony Papa, Ken Hrapmann, David Centanni, Wayne Estay and Lester Latino. Standing were Don Durham, Shelley Dickie, head coach Glen Gossett, Don Guidry, Sterling Baldwin and Mark Nyvall.

Vallie Anderson--1983
Shreveport, LA

Brenda Milner--1985
Natchitoches, LA

Jo Ann Dombrowski--
1970
Bonita Springs, FL

William Myers--1969
Maurice, LA

Zella Green--1984
Shreveport, LA

Rosalind Patterson--
1983
Shreveport, LA

Brett Knecht--1979
Natchitoches, LA

John Ropp--1958
Natchitoches, LA

Gene Knecht--1962
Natchitoches, LA



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Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Alumni Updates" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date _____

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.) _____
Please Circle Last First Middle Maiden

Current address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NSU undergraduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

NSU graduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

During which years did you attend NSU? _____

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU? _____

Place of employment _____

Job title: _____ Work phone: _____

Spouse's name: _____

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Spouse's graduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students?

Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497

If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:

University Recruiting

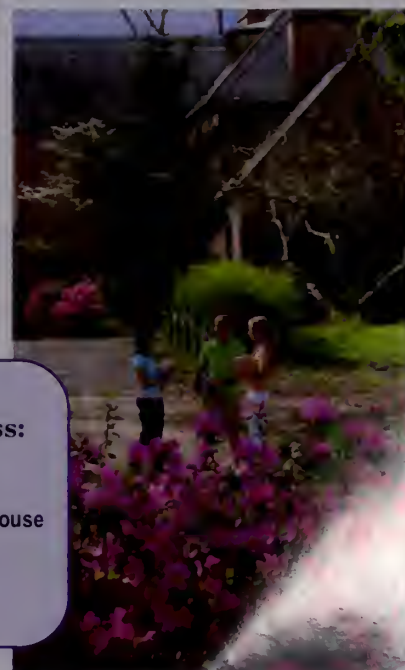
South Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-4503 or 800-327-1903
www.nsula.edu/enrollmentservices/recruiting

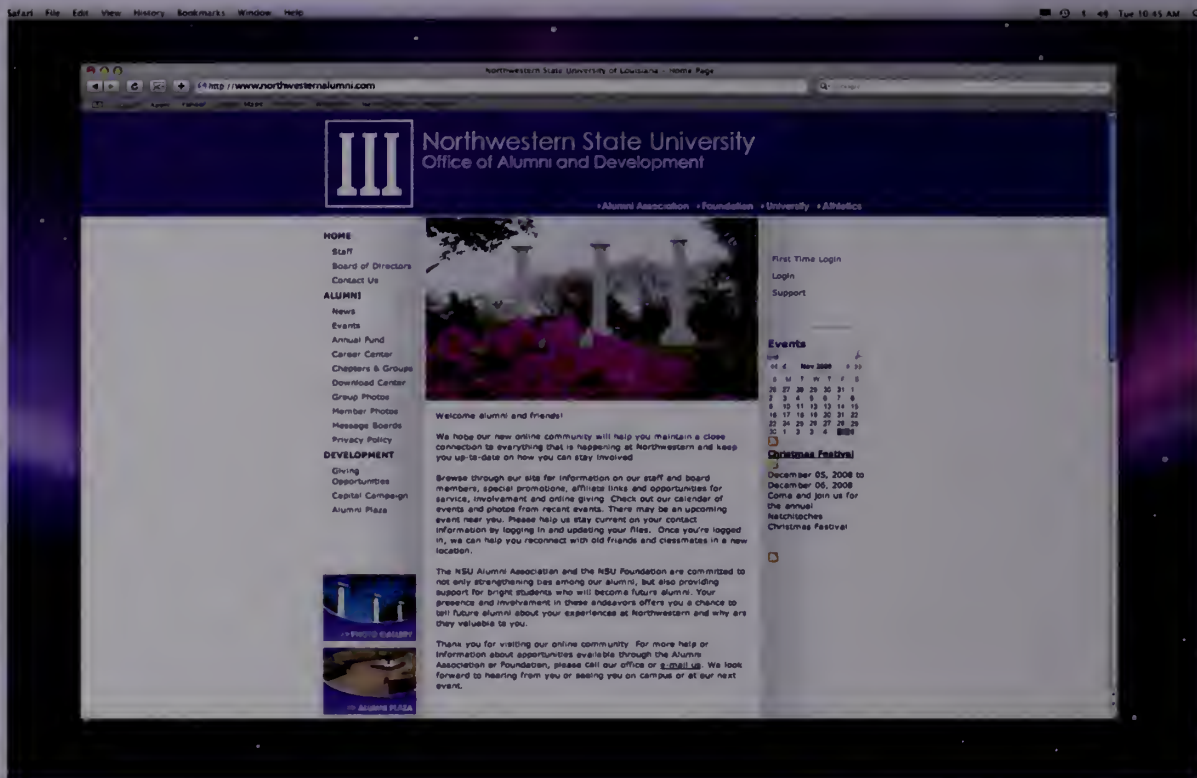
Financial Aid

Room 109, Roy Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5961
www.nsula.edu/financialaid

Athletic Director

Room 101C, Athletic Fieldhouse
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5251
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